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OFFICIAL**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/862,939 (Confirmation No. 9754)
Applicants : Ronald D. Hoover
Filed : May 22, 2001
Art Unit : 3643
Examiner : Bethany L. Griles
Docket No. : 6750.2
Customer No. : 21176

Date : March 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Madam:

This responds to the Office Action mailed December 16, 2003. The undersigned attorney appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and responds herein to the issues presented. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on Page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 9 of this paper.